



Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes

Date: *August 21, 2019*

Time: *8:00 pm*

Location: Arlington Senior Center, 27 Maple Street Ground Floor Mural Room

Attendance: Commissioners: Betsy Carlton-Gysan, Sheri Baron, Kristina Fontanez (treasurer), Christine Carney, Gary Horowitz, Sharon Grossman, Kristen Bauer, Catherine Rodgers; Officer Brendan Kiernan; Interns: Noah Sweder, Annika Lof

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:00 pm by Commissioner Carney

Welcome new Commissioner Catherine Rodgers

1. Election of Co-Chairs:

Commissioner Carney nominated Kristin Bauer and Sharon Grossman to be co-chairs until January 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Baron. The co-chairs were elected by unanimous vote with their term to begin immediately.

2. Review meeting minutes from May meeting:

Motion to table review of May minutes made by Commissioner Carney, was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. Working Groups

Communications will include: Facebook, Twitter, Email, Website, Newsletter (activity, events, books)

Members: Commissioners Carlton-Gysan*, Fontanez, Bauer, Carney, and Intern Lof

Schools and education

Members: Commissioners Grossman*, Minton, Rodgers, and Horowitz

Incidents will include developing protocols on how to respond, outlining the differences between large and small incidents and between incidents and complaints. At least one commissioner will be on call each month.

Members: Commissioners Carney* and Grossman (possibly)

Outreach will develop relationships with the community, develop events, organize rapid responses within the community in the event of a major incident, networking within the interfaith/faith communities, be responsible for the Rapid Response Network
Members: Commissioners Bauer, Carlton-Gysan, Fontanez, Baron, Carney, Intern Sweder*

*Indicates point person

It was agreed that working groups will try to each meet before the next meeting. During these meetings the following will occur: a description of the working group, discuss practical examples of what is in the purview of each working group, and guidelines for what must be brought back to the commission for a vote. Reports will be made at the next meeting.

4. Reports:

Indigenous People's day warrant - Commissioner Carlton-Gysan discussed.

Commissioner Grossman made a motion to support guidelines for responding to incidents of hate at Arlington Public Schools; seconded by Commissioner Carlton-Gysan. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Grossman made a motion to accept new liaison protocols at Arlington Public Schools; seconded by Commissioner Baron. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Review notes from spring retreat and Commissioner Carlton-Geysan proposal

Commissioner's proposal was reviewed and discussed.

6. Discussion of Public Input from previous meeting

Commissioner Bauer explained this would be a new regular feature of the agenda to be sure there is time to comment on public input provided at meetings. It will allow for time for reflection on what is raised and reactions, etc, to be discussed at the following meeting. Commissioners then shared thoughts on issues which had been raised.

7. Public Input

There were no comments from the public.

8. Commissioner Reports:

Gary Horowitz will be new intern manager; Co-chairs will work on a welcome package for new commissioners

9. Incidents

Hate graffiti on Wednesday, July 10, in the area of Spy Pond Parkway discussed. Commissioner Fontanez provided 5 signs to the area.

Gender neutrality on town forms reviewed.

10. Upcoming Events

- Town day Sep. 14th. Commissioner Fontanez asked for sign ups and discussed the need for supplies. Commissioner Carney moved to spend up to \$400 on supplies, which was seconded by Commissioner Baron and passed unanimously
- Retreat to be planned once the commission has all open seats filled.

11. Next meeting

September 18th, at this meeting the Commission will review the calendar for the year.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Carlton-Gysan, seconded by Commissioner Carlton-Gysan and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45